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caverns, encounters with wild men and wild beasts, ambushes, murders, enough to satisfy any appetite in that kind. Yet the novel is not one of the melodramatic or the "horrible" sort. Its tone is high, its descriptions are chaste, and its sentiment is quite in harmony with that of *Picciola*. As a picture of the wild scenery and manners of Dalmatian mountain life, and of the fierce passions of those races, it bears the marks of personal knowledge and conscientious fidelity. If M. Saintine has not risked the dangers of travel in that land of robbers, he has certainly by careful study made the spirit and scenery of the land his own. He has introduced, moreover, sketches of Hungarian life, of Pesth and Buda, by way of relief to the wilder scenes of the Illyrian coast.

The fault of this and some other romances of M. Saintine which we have read, is excessive rapidity of movement. The story goes on with a rush, and the reader has no repose. This is accounted for by the habit of dramatic writing. The crowning merit of a play may be a defect in a novel.

9. — *The English Boy in Japan; or, The Perils and Adventures of Mark Raffles among Princes, Priests, and People of that Singular Empire.* By WILLIAM DALTON. London: T. Nelson and Sons. 1858. 16mo. pp. 308.

LIKE most good books for boys, to men also this volume of Japanese adventure will be more interesting than the more pretending volumes of history and travel. The incidents are exciting enough to stimulate curiosity, yet not improbable enough to create disgust. There is nothing told which might not have happened, and the reader is gratified by finding that the romance ends in a legitimate way, with virtue rewarded, justice done, and a happy lot to all the heroes. As a manager of dialogue, Mr. Dalton is hardly equal to Mr. Jacob Abbott; but no one of the "Rollo Books" has compressed so much entertaining detail into a volume as the book before us. The scenery of Japan, harbors, gardens, roads, hills, volcanoes, earthquakes, rulers and people, court practices, street practices, and life on shipboard, — all the pleasant and all the grotesque features of the Japanese land and life, — are brought into the easy reading of three or four hours.